CLAIMS

1. A computer storage system comprising:

a file processor to manage data transmission in the computer storage system, the file processor operating as part of a computing device;

a management component module and at least one client component on at least one other computing device that work in conjunction with the file processor for archival type requests.

2. The computer storage system of claim 1 wherein the archival type requests comprise backup requests such that at least one copy of a data is stored in a location other than an original location of the data.

3. The computer storage system of claim 1 wherein the archival type requests comprise retrieval requests that allows a data to be requested in the computer storage system for immediate access.

4. The computer storage system of claim 1 wherein the archival type requests comprise restoration requests that provide the storage system with the ability to restore a data to a selected state.

5. The computer storage system of claim 1 wherein the management component initiates a full backup of the storage system as stored and managed on a storage area network (SAN) system.

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6. The computer storage system of claim 1 further comprising a media component and a client component that manage functions associated with a backup of the computer storage system.

7. A modular network storage system comprising:

a file processor for directing functions associated with the archival of data over a network, the file processor being a part of a computing device;

a plurality of backup devices, each backup device having storage space for the archival of data;

a plurality of media components, each media component being a part of a computing device and being communicatively coupled to one or more of the plurality of the backup devices and the file processor for controlling the archival functions of the backup devices in accordance with the direction from the file processor;

a plurality of client components for generating archival type requests; and

wherein the file processor, in response to the archival type requests, provides direction to the plurality of media components for directing the archival functions in accordance with the archival type requests.

8. The modular network storage system of claim 7, further comprising:

a management component, which is a part of a computing device, communicatively coupled to the file processor and the plurality of client devices for coordinating archival functions.

9. The modular network storage system of claim 7, further comprising:

a plurality of client devices; and

wherein each client component is communicatively coupled to one or more of the plurality of client devices and the file processor for communicating the archival type requests from the client devices to the file processor.

11. The modular network storage system of claim 9, wherein at least two of the plurality of client devices run different operating systems.

12. The modular network storage system of claim 7, wherein the archival type requests comprise backup requests such that at least one copy of data is stored in a location other than an original location of the data.

13. The modular network storage system of claim 7, wherein the archival type requests comprise retrieval requests that allows data to be requested in the computer storage system for immediate access.

14. The modular network storage system of claim 7, wherein the archival type requests comprise restoration requests that provide the modular network storage system with the ability to restore data to a selected state.

15. The modular network storage system of claim 9, further comprising:

a network storage media communicatively coupled to two or more of the plurality of client devices over the network and the plurality of backup devices;

wherein at least one client device includes a local storage media;

wherein the archival functions include reading data from the network storage media and writing the data to one of the plurality of backup devices; and

wherein the archival functions include reading data from the local storage media and writing the data to one of the plurality of backup devices.

15 16. A method for storing data over a network, comprising:

providing a file processor, communicatively coupled to at least one client component and a plurality of media components;

providing a plurality of backup devices, each backup device having physical storage space for performing archival functions;

coupling the plurality of media components communicatively with the plurality of backup devices, and with a file processor, wherein each of the media components controls the archival functions of one or more backup devices;

generating an archival type request, by the at least one of client component to the file processor; and

directing, by the file processor through the plurality of media components, the backup devices to perform an archival function, in accordance with the archival type request.

16 17. The method of claim 16, wherein at least two of the plurality of clients run different operating systems.

17 18. The method of claim 17, wherein the archival type requests comprise backup requests such that at least one copy of a data is stored in a location other than an original location of the data.

18 19. The modular network storage system of claim 17, wherein the archival type requests comprise retrieval requests that allows data to be requested in the computer storage system for immediate access.

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A 20. The modular network storage system of claim 17, wherein the archival type requests comprise restoration requests that provide the modular network storage system with the ability to restore data to a selected state.

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